

ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

EXCISE

FOR RM USE ONLY

RM/R	REP	AF
1	5	
ARA	EUR	FE
	5	
NEA	CU	INR
	5	
E	P	IO
	1	2
L	FBO	AID
2		12
U/IB	S/P	PC
1	1	2
AGR	COM	FRB
2	2	
INT	LAB	TAR
	2	
YR	XMB	AIR
2		10
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
13	15	14
OSD	USIA	NSA
15	11	3
	46W	NSC
	1	6

A-182

CONFIDENTIAL

AIR POUCH

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : DHAHRAN CHUSMTM COMIDEASTFOR
USMTM AIR SECTION USMTM ARMY SECTION

DEPT PASS: See list of posts below

FROM : Ambassador JIDDA.

SUBJECT: Joint Weeka No. 18

REF

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GROUP 1
Downgraded at 3-year intervals
Declassified after 12 years

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In Out

FORM DS-323

Drafted by:

RWMurphy/MDraper/CEMarthinsen:lf 12-3-63 NGThacher, Counselor of Embassy

Clearances:

REVIEWED BY: *[Signature]* DATE: 11/1/82

RDS for XDSI EXT. DATE
TS AUTH.
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE
RELEASE DURING IN PART
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS *[Handwritten: b1, (A)(S), (A)(U)]*

GROUP 1
Downgraded at 3-year intervals
Declassified after 12 years
Direction RM/2

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2 *[Handwritten: Indefinite]*

POLITICAL/ECONOMIC

DECLASSIFIED

2. Bribery Scandal Affects American Firm. Some two weeks ago Crown Prince Faysal personally ordered investigation into alleged bribery within Interior and Communications Ministries, involving contracts for one American firm, and another American-controlled Swiss firm, [redacted] Local agents these two firms allegedly had bribed, or had attempted to bribe, key ministry officials. Outcome was that Faysal personally ordered expulsion of three Palestinians, [redacted]

[redacted] Princes [redacted] were reprimanded, as was another agent, who, however, is a Saudi citizen and therefore was not expelled.

American representatives of [redacted] affirmed its complete non-involvement these activities, which view currently accepted by Faysal since this company's contract will remain in force. However, all [redacted] contracts, one of which was for a \$2 million water and sewage project, reportedly would be cancelled. (CONFIDENTIAL)

Comment: Embassy unable evaluate credibility of evidence against alleged guilty parties but incident constitutes certainly convincing example Faysal's determination eliminate corruption including any being practiced by members Royal Family. Still, Embassy does not exclude possibility charges manufactured by jealous competitors. (CONFIDENTIAL)

MILITARY

Negative

PSYCHOLOGICAL

1. Kennedy Assassination. Wireless coverage of events following assassination of President claimed front pages of Saudi press, much Radio Mecca time during period under review. Wide usage USIS pictures, background materials. President Johnson's cables to King Saud and Crown Prince Faysal replying to their condolence messages broadcast and published. President Johnson's first days in office, speeches awarded broad coverage. (DECLASSIFIED)

DECLASSIFIED

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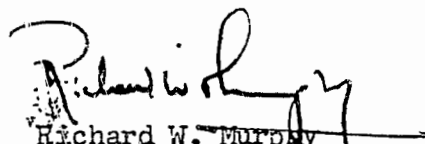
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Anti-Zionist flavor given to Oswald Ruby (Rubenstein) aspect of case, especially by al-Bilad. Paper's cartoonist, Gaby, produced series of three acid caricatures; typical was Israeli Foreign Minister Meir shedding crocodile tears when paying condolence call on President.

Writer Sulayman Qadi, December 1 in al-Bilad penned feature related to assassination in which he attacked rightest groups in US. (UNCLASSIFIED)

For the Ambassador:



Richard W. Murphy
Second Secretary of Embassy

DEPT PASS: ⁽²⁵⁾ ADEN, AMMAN, ANKARA, BAGHDAD (2), BEIRUT, BEIRUT FOR MELG, BONN FOR CINCUSAFE, CAIRO, DAMASCUS, FRANKFURT FOR LINDSEY AIR STATION, ATTN: DSC INTELLIGENCE IDCA, HEADQUARTERS, USAREUR HEIDELBERG, KARACHI, KHARTOUM, KUWAIT, LONDON FOR CINCNELM, RABAT, TAIZ, TEHRAN, PARIS, PARIS FOR CINCEUR, ASMARA, TEL AVIV, TRIPOLI, JERUSALEM

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